THE LAMENTABLE DESTRVCTION

of Mulheim, a Proteſtant Towne *in Germany.*

Done by the Inhabitants of Cologne *the* 30. *of September laſt* 1615. at three of the Clock in the Morning.

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LONDON,

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1615.

The pitifull destruction of the *Towne of* Mulheim *extracted out of* certaine letters bearing date in *Cullen the first of October in the euening.*

1615.

VPon the nine and twenty day of September last past, there was an extraordinary Councell and secret meeting holden in the city of Cullen: which done, in the afternoone, it being S. *Michaels* day, (which is to be noted) all the Masons, Bricklayers, Carpenters and Slaters, were called and assembled together, before the Magistrates, by whom they were told and willed to make them selues ready, with pickaxes, shouels, and other tooles, the night ensuing about three of the clocke in the morning, therewith vtterly to raze and breake downe the towne of Muhleim, vpon paine of being put from their trades of liuing, if they refused so to doe. This vnexpected warning put the workemen into no little feare, and perplexity, so that at

the firſt they vtterly refuſed and denied to doe it, ſaying that it behoued them to ſet better ſoldiers a worke, in that peece of ſeruice, then they were, alledging that they feared and greatly doubted that the ſtones thereof might and would then, or in time to come, breake their, or their childrens Shins: wherevnto the Magiſtrates made anſwere, that they would be their warrant and protectors againſt all men for doing it. Wherevpon the worke men fully reſolued, that if the Burgo-Maſter and the Magiſtrates of the city, would goe before them & be their guides, they would follow them: which they promiſed to doe. While this matter was in determination, the gates of the city were kept ſhut, that no man in the meane time ſhould goe out, to make report thereof abroad, and that the townes men of Mulheim might not haue intelligence of their pretence, to ſaue them ſelues by flight. At the ſame time there was a rumor ſpread abroad, that in the new market place, in the city of Cullen, there was a murther committed,

mitted, and that ſearch was then to be made for the murtherer: vnder this pretẽce in the night time, about 3. of the clock, which was the pretended time and houre appointed: *Iohn Bowlant* the Burgermaſter, and others of the Magiſtrates, went out of the gates; with ſuch a number of creſſets, fackles, linkes, and lanternes, that the night ſeemed to be as light as day, and after them the towns men followed to the number of 800. at the leaſt, beſides ſtraglers, hauing 200. ſoldiers, with pipes and drums, marching before them, to defend the worke men: before they fell to worke, there was a commiſſion red vnto them to ſhew and certifie them, that it was not onely the Emperors and the Dukes pleaſure, to haue it done, but alſo the new-Burgers and the Magiſtrates of Cullens will, who had fought and procured the ſame, for the good & welfare of the city of Cullen, & the preſeruation of the citizens thereof: which done they fell to worke, firſt breaking downe the greateſt houſes, and ſo continued the ſpoyle the

whole night, and all the next day vntill the first of October in the euening, whereby not a stone therof is left standing one vpon the other. The bricks, free stones, lead, and iron, and that which would serue for any thing, was giuen vnto the Capucins, and al the ruines of the great Church. The French Church, with all the ruines thereof, was giuen to the Fulldoers, which they themselues brake downe. The great deep cellers and vaults, which could not well be broken in hast, they tooke order that they should be blowne vp with gunpouder, and that then the new houses that had bin built in old Mulheim within the space of foure yeares, should be throwne downe. No man therein had any warning giuen him of the destruction thereof, nor any time permitted them to scape away: al the women (were they neuer so great with childe, or lying in childebed) children, and men, were straightly charged and forbidden not to goe into Cologne, so that no man knowes whether they fled to saue them selues, for that, all there-

thereabouts in ſome peſants houſes, and alſo in old Mulheim there lay many Wallons, that had more deſire to ſpoile and deſtroy the poore diſtreſſed people running away, then to ſaue and harbor them. This heauy and ſorrowfull night, rayſed a great cry, pitifull noyſe, woe and clamor in the towne of Mulheim, ſpecially among poore women and children, for that moſt part of the Merchants of the Towne were then at Fanckfort Mart, and thoſe that dealt in wines, were gone vp into the country, to buy wine. To conclude, in this vnexpected and cruell action, all the fauour ſhowed them was, that they murthered not the poore diſtreſſed men, whoſe wofull cries clime vp and pierce into heauen, and make complaint vnto the great reuenger of all iniuries, and oppreſſed people, that with deuout prayer recommend themſelues vnto him.

FINIS.